

Bloomfield Citizen.

WEEKLY JOURNAL

PUBLISHED BY

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THE CITIZEN solicits contributions from the general public on any subject—political, religious, educational, or social—so long as they do not contain any personal attacks.

All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith. Advertisements for insertion in the current week must be in hand not later than Friday noon.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1906.

The Primary Election Issues.

Some States in the Union have gained a predominating influence in national affairs by sending good men to Congress and keeping them there. It is a good policy and is as much a national benefit as a State benefit. In sending to Congress such men as R. Wayne Parker and Charles N. Fowler, and returning them term after term New Jersey's importance and influence in national affairs has advanced, and if the policy is continued still further advance will be made in this State's prestige in national matters.

A new man in Congress, except he be a man of national reputation, is a non-entity for a term or two. He is not among the experienced circle that the Speaker confers with and advises with in the make up of committees and the shaping of national legislation. By reason of several successive years in Congress and by ability that has won recognition among the leaders in Congressional work R. Wayne Parker has become a valuable representative for New Jersey in Congress, and viewed from a broad national standpoint it does not appear conceivable that among Republicans in Essex county many can be found who will favor a change in the Congressional representation from this district. In no important line of comparison that can be drawn can any justifiable reason be given why a change should be made, and certainly when the State's interests are considered the substitution for Mr. Parker that is offered to the voters of this Congressional district is an absurdity and none but fanatical factionalists will seriously consider it.

It will be a vital mistake, detrimental to New Jersey's interests in many ways, if Mr. Parker is defeated in the primary election and every one interested in the State's welfare should exert themselves next Tuesday in order to make sure that no such political disaster occurs.

The primary election Tuesday is of national import in other ways. The delegates to the County Republican Convention will nominate members of the Assembly, who, if elected, will vote for a United States Senator. If the new idea faction in the Republican party wins the election it means that the United States Senatorship will go from Essex county to Hudson county and that George L. Record will likely be elected Senator. While the people of Essex county may not as a matter of county pride take kindly to such a step, there is a more important matter involved in the Senatorship than mere county pride and loyalty. New Jersey's representatives in the United States Senate and Congress are men who are outspoken in their views on questions of national policy.

They are in accord with the predominant Republican party policy of protection to American industries and do not hesitate to say so. The case is the contrary with Mr. Record. His political reputation is not one of stability and certainty. That he is fearless is unquestioned, but that he is erratic is obvious from his political career. Compared with a man whose brains and ability have won a place in the front ranks in business and commercial circles, and who is not a political adventurer, there seems to be every reason why the conservative voters of Essex county and the thousands of men employed in the industries extant here (and whose welfare is involved in national legislation affecting commerce and business) should vote for delegates who will vote in favor of true and tried representatives in the United States Senate and House of Representatives.

Senator Dryden's Reply to Colby.

Colbyites and others who read United States Senator John F. Dryden's masterly reply to State Senator Everett Colby's charge that Senator Dryden has caused garbled records of the Hillary-Colby debate to be issued, must have been forced to the conclusion that some degree of caution must be exercised in making statements involving the reputation of Mr. Dryden.

The United States Senator certainly lauded the State Senator, and said that owing to the manner of presenting Senator Colby's letter to the press he would be justified in not making a reply, but as such a course might be misinterpreted he does make answer. The Colby letter was given out to the

press last Friday before Senator Dryden could have received it.

Mr. Dryden says that not only did he not give out the garbled "stenographic" copy, but he knew absolutely nothing about it.

Furthermore, he says he doubts that such a copy was sent out and challenges Senator Colby to produce even one copy of the alleged report.

Mr. Dryden says Mr. Colby may have acted in this matter, as in previous productions, on the strength of matters concerning which he had been "informed."

He refers to Mr. Colby's education in college and law school, to his experience in Wall street and in the Legislature, and goes on to say that such a man should have education enough not to be the victim of "booses" in the Legislature, as Mr. Colby confessed he was.

In this connection Mr. Dryden charges Mr. Colby with having violated the oath of office he took as a member of the Assembly.

Church Notes.

A class for the study of the Bible and the training of Sunday-school teachers will be held in the lecture-room of the Park Methodist Episcopal Church every week, beginning next Saturday evening, September 23, at 8 o'clock. It will be conducted by the pastor, Rev. Dr. Jesse L. Hurlbut, who is widely known as a successful teacher of teachers, and for many years has been in charge of the teacher-training classes at Chautauqua and other assemblies. The course will consist of studies in Bible history, geography and institutions, and also in the aims and methods of Sunday-school instruction. All Sunday-school teachers and others interested in the study of the Bible are invited to attend this class. No fee will be required for membership. Each student is desired to bring notebook and pencil. The subjects will be illustrated by the blackboard. A large attendance is looked for next Saturday evening.

In the Park M. E. Church to-morrow the subject of the morning sermon by Dr. J. L. Hurlbut will be "The Fine Line of the Salts." In the evening, "How to Have and to Hold Freedom."

The services in the Wateessing M. E. Church to-morrow will be as follows: At 10:30 A. M. Rev. G. T. Southerland will speak on "The World's Greatest Enterprise." At 7:30 P. M. Rev. S. Travens Jackson will take for his subject, "Between Me and Thee."

The tenth anniversary of St. John's Lutheran Evangelical Church will be celebrated to-morrow with special services. Rev. John Doering of New York, Rev. Albert Heyd of Rochester, N. Y., who was the first pastor, Rev. Henry A. Steinglor and others will speak.

To-morrow evening there will be a rally service at the Bloomfield Mission, and a very earnest invitation is extended to all who are interested in mission work, or think that a mission should be maintained in Bloomfield, to be present and assist by their presence and work in its support. It is especially desired that a number of young people offer their services to help with the singing. Workers are greatly needed.

Library Notes.

"The Awakening of Helena Richie," by Margaret De Stid, is undoubtedly the most widely read and discussed book of the summer. Its appeal is intensely human—a soul is laid bare, but by a reverent hand.

With the self-sufficiency of extreme youth, Helena Richie in a blind quest for happiness, defines morality as "conventional conventionality," and dares to involve herself in a situation which she long develops in such a way as to make life a very difficult proposition.

Through the influence of a little child her self-satisfaction is shaken; and the scorn of an old man who has guessed her secret rouses her anger, "wrenching and tearing her from the soil of contentment into which for so many years her vanity and selfishness had struck their roots." With a child-like abandon, alternately fighting and encouraging her soul growth, she reaches the conviction that "no one of us may do that which, if done by all, would destroy society," and she is shaken with terror at the outcome of her deliberate contempt of "social responsibility."

In due time, through disappointment and sorrow, involving others beside herself, her soul struggles to its full growth and finds in repentance and renunciation the happiness so long sought. The story is full of earnest power as the human heart is full of emotions, and its whole tendency is uplifting.

It is now time to plan for fall planting in order to get good results in the garden next summer. A very helpful guide is Cornelius V. V. Sewell, who writes in a delightfully chatty way about "Common Sense Gardening." He recommends the large use of old fashioned flowers and shrubs, not only for the beauty which is theirs but "because with the passing of June they have become enshrouded by sentiment and tradition."

PROTECT your securities and valuable papers against FIRE and BURGLARY by renting a box in the Safe Deposit Vaults of The Bloomfield National Bank. Boxes to rent at \$4.00 per year and upwards.—Adv.

Have your lawn mower put in shape by S. F. Townsend through Frongapfel Bros., Bloomfield Centre.—Adv.

Comparison.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR—A very unusual occurrence, even in politics, has happened in our town. Two candidates for re-election for Councilman are as opposite in regard to their actions in the Council as it is possible to be. In the First district of the First ward we have a man who, supposedly a Democrat, is taken up by the County Committeeman, and in a speech endorsed for as a Republican Councilman—a man who, in his past record in the Council, has stood for everything that he considered for the best welfare of our town; one, when he is named for the office, says that if the people want him he is willing to stand for renomination, but will not make any individual effort to press his campaign, being willing to leave it to the good sense of his constituents as to their judgment of his public actions.

In the First district of the Third ward we have just the opposite—a candidate seeking a renomination, pushing his name before the voters by a conference at his own house; then, again, at a packed meeting in the Young Men's Republican Club rooms, in which the vote was a tie—a man whose actions in the Council have been continuously called in question; a man who has done the very least for his own ward, but apparently having an eye on the office of Mayor. He has loomed up in the great and large money propositions, such as advocating and pushing the expenditure of a large amount of town money for laying miles of water pipes to the uttermost limits of the farming section of the town, and if a candidate ever wanted the office for some reason not yet apparent as badly as he does, and could not see the handwriting on the wall, when it is so plainly shown that the best part of his ward does not want him, without having to be forced to decide at the primary, because he, and he alone, will destroy the harmony in the Republican party of the ward for his own selfish purposes, I am sure the voters of the ward will make it plainly evident next Tuesday that they will not endorse his actions.

A VOTER.

Gains for Town Clerk.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR—A great deal has been said and printed in regard to Mr. Johnson being such an efficient Town Clerk. In all of which we who favor Mr. Gahs will agree, but we forget that Mr. Johnson was a very young man when he assumed the office, and with no more ability or promise than Mr. Gahs, who is also a young man of ability, business experience, integrity, and all that goes to make an efficient public official. With all the new ideas that have evolved during the past few years, a respected member of several social organizations, in which he has held the highest offices, courteous, gentlemanly, willing to listen to advice, and if elected we believe he will make an efficient Town Clerk as we have ever had.

PHIL R. HUGHES.

LANGUAGE EVOLUTION.

Use of the Suffix "Less" in Verbs, Nouns and Adjectives.

Many will remember that some years ago there went on a violent controversy about the word tireless. The discovery had been made that "less" was a suffix which could properly be appended only to nouns; hence the form must be discarded, and we must all take pains to say untiring. The duty of so doing was preached from scores of professional and newspaper pulpits. No one seemed to think or care for the various other adjectives similarly formed and therefore liable to the similar censure which they never received. Hostility was directed against it alone. The actual flaw which vitiated the arguments against tireless its censors never saw or took into consideration. This was that the fancied rule covering the creation of such words had practically long ceased to be operative whenever a new formation struck the sense of the users of language as being desirable.

Unquestionably in our earliest speech the suffix "less" when employed to form adjectives was joined only with nouns. But the general sloughing off of nominal and verbal endings which went on in later centuries reduced a great proportion of substantives and verbs in the speech to precisely the same form. In consequence the sense of any fundamental distinction between the two broke down in many ways—in one way in particular. There is nothing easier in our speech than to convert a verb into a noun or a noun into a verb. It is a process which has taken place constantly in the past and is liable to take place at any time in the future, either at the will or the whim of the writer or speaker.—Thomas K. Lonsbury in Harper's.

A Horse Story.

Our Dumb Animals tells a remarkable story about the intelligence of a mare who saved her colt from death by stopping a train on a railroad in Texas. The colt had fallen with its legs through a railroad bridge, and the mother started down the track to meet the coming train. As the train came up she stood on the track whinnying. The train stopped, and then the mare trotted ahead of it as it moved slowly to the bridge. Here the colt was discovered and extricated from its perilous position. The story was vouched for by the engineer, railroad men and passengers in the train.

Colby Rally.

A Colby rally was held in Central Hall Monday night and addressed by Senator Colby and others. The speakers were received with much enthusiasm by the local new idea party men.

The Clerkship.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR—Those opposed to a change in the office of Town Clerk base their arguments on the unquestioned ability and efficiency of the present incumbent of the office, William L. Johnson.

Those favoring a change do not attempt any argument along lines of ability and efficiency but simply fall back on the specious plea of necessity. They put the unanswerable question, "what if the Town Clerk should die? what would you do then?" Of course we would have to bow to the inevitable. The argument based on possible death is a weak one and will not enter into the calculations of sane men who will pass upon the question of the town clerkship and act in a manner that they deem solely to the best interests of the town.

The town clerkship is an office that has grown in importance of late years, and the position now ranks with that of city clerk, the most important in municipalities of that class. The position is not alone clerical.

The Town Council meets one evening every two weeks. In the interval the Council is represented by the Clerk. Nearly all matters that are submitted to the Council first pass through his hands and in many cases he is obliged to act in a semi-executive capacity. Some people think that the clerk takes too much executive power on himself, but such opinions are due to lack of knowledge or appreciation of the situation in which the clerk is placed. The chief executive of the town and the sub-committee chairmen of the Council cannot devote much of their private business time to public business, and they often rely on the clerk to transact matters for them.

In addition to being semi-executive the clerk's office is semi-judicial. The present clerk has a private law library of books treating on municipal affairs. The clerk must be familiar with the statutes governing municipalities and must have ability to interpret them. The town's business correspondence, which is both extensive and important, is entrusted to the clerk, and in this particular line all former members of the office have praised the work of Mr. Johnson.

The movement for a change in the clerkship does not appear to be based on good grounds. It is evident that the leaders of a powerful political faction that has lately arisen are out for all the paying offices in sight and have fixed their eyes on the clerkship for one of their number. It might be good policy to administer a rebuke to an overgrown ambition.

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